



**Department of Tamil  
Bhasha-Bhavana, Visva-Bharati**

**Proposed SUBSIDIARY COURSES IN TAMIL**

**Semester I**

**Tamil Language Learning- I**

**Units-I TO III**

**Marks:**

**80**

**Syllabus for Beginning Tamil**

This course is meant for beginners of Tamil who do not have any background in Tamil prior to taking this course. Instruction for this course include teaching both the writing and spoken system. An assignment will be due on every Monday, and a quiz will be held once in two weeks. There will be a semester examination. Grade is issued based on the following:

Attendance - 5%, assignments - 10 %, Quizzes - 5 %, SEMESTER - 80

**Unit I: 25 Marks**

a) Introduction to Tamil Language, b) Introduction to writing system, c) Tamil vowels d) Tamil consonants, d) Visiting the Language Lab.

**Homework:** Assignment No. 1. - Writing Tamil vowels and consonants

**Reading for next week:** WALT homepage: <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/plc/tamilweb/mkletter.html>, [saylet.html](http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/plc/tamilweb/saylet.html), [framesyll.html](http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/plc/tamilweb/framesyll.html) and HyperCard software: lessons 1 and 2)

**Unit II- 30 Marks**

**Class work:** a) Making syllables in Tamil, b) Practice writing syllables, c) Making words and d) Pronunciation of Tamil words - reading words

**Homework:** Assignment No. 2 - Writing syllables and making words

**Reading for next week:** WALT page: <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/plc/tamilweb/lessons/lesson1.html>, Reading on Sandhi rules will be provided.

**Class work:** a) Pronunciation of Tamil words contd., b) Making noun-noun sentences, c) Making interrogative questions versus information seeking questions and d) practice sandhi rules

**Thursday Quiz: (45 minutes)** covering writing vowels, consonants and making simple words and simple sentences

**Assignment:** Writing words, translating simple sentences with noun-noun construction

**Reading:** Sandhi Rules, Interrogative questions, Information seeking question and negative markers

### **Unit III – 25 Marks**

**Class work:** a) Sandhi rules, b) Use of case suffixes, c) Introducing the use of verbs and d) use of tense markers (present tense)

**Assignment:** Combination of words and vowels.

**Reading:** Reading - 1 from the reader

### **Primary Source**

- 1. University of Pennsylvania Language Learning Center's Web Assisted Learning and Teaching of Tamil (WALTT): <http://plc.sas.upenn.edu/tamil>

### **Books Prescribed:**

1. Tamilpada Nool- Books I,II,III

**Government of Tamil Nadu Department of School Education School Textbooks in Tamil Available in .pdf Format:** <http://www.textbooksonline.tn.nic.in/>

### **Books Recommended**

1. Tamil Course for European School – Books I & II, Christian Literature Society, Chennai.
2. ABC of Tamil- T.B.Sidalingaiah, Paari Nilayam,Chennai.
3. Tamil Language in Context , Vasu Renganathan, **Publisher:** [www.thetamilanguage.com](http://www.thetamilanguage.com); 1st edition (2011).

### **Translation, Dictionaries and Resources**

- Tamilcube: <http://www.tamilcube.com/res/tamilpad.html>
- <http://www.dictionary.tamilcube.com/>
- University of Chicago Digital Dictionaries of South Asia University of Madras Tamil Lexicon Search Engine: <http://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries//tamil-lex/>

### Online Language Learning

- Government of Tamil Nadu Department of School Education School Textbooks in Tamil Available in .pdf Format: <http://www.textbooksonline.tn.nic.in/>
- University of Pennsylvania Language Learning Center's Web Assisted Learning and Teaching of Tamil (WALTT): <http://plc.sas.upenn.edu/tamil>
- Tamil Virtual Academy (TVA): <http://www.tamilvu.org/> by stage

### Tamil learning Software

1. Tamil - A to Z  
Instructional Tamil Software for Macintosh  
(in 105 graded lessons)

## Semester II

### Tamil Language and Literature

Attendance - 5%, assignments - 10 %, Quizzes - 5 %, SEMESTER - 80

#### Unit I- 25 Marks

1. Indian Language families and the place of Tamil among Indian Languages.
2. Place of Tamil among Dravidian Languages.
3. Tamil as a Classical Language.

#### Unit II- 40Marks

1. Basic Rules of Tamil Grammar and Grammatical Structure.
2. The language of Modern Tamil
3. Difference between literary and spoken Tamil.

#### Unit III- 15 Marks

1. Pure Tamil words and borrowing words.
2. Tamil culture and translation.
3. The language of Sangam Literature.

#### Primary Source:

1. Caldwell, Robert (1974), *A comparative grammar of the Dravidian or South-Indian family of languages*, New Delhi: Oriental Books Reprint Corp.
2. Meenakshisundaran, T.P. (1965), *A History of Tamil Language*, Poona: Deccan College
3. Rajam, VS (1992), *A Reference Grammar of Classical Tamil Poetry*, Philadelphia: The American Philosophical Society, [ISBN 0-87169-199-X](https://www.amazon.com/dp/087169199X)

Ref:

- <http://www.southasia.sas.upenn.edu/tamil/lit.html>.
- [www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9gRIPGVnpE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9gRIPGVnpE)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamil\\_language](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamil_language)



## **Semester IV**

### **Tamil Language Learning –III (Practical Paper)**

Attendance - 5%, assignments - 10 %, Quizzes - 5 %, Semester Practical - 80%

#### **Unit I – 20 MARKS**

1. Understanding the Tamil Language and dialects through various Multimedia sources.
2. Tamil sentence formation and speech practice.
3. Singing the Songs- Nursery Level.

#### **Unit II- 20 MARKS**

1. Find out the proper Tamil words to the task given by the Teachers.
2. Reading the Tamil texts and understand the Meaning (Practical).
3. Dictation of the Text.

#### **Unit III- 40 MARKS**

1. Tamil to English Translation.
2. English to Tamil Translation.
3. Conversation in Tamil with the Tamil scholars.